

underside the surface structure, and wherein an integral support arrangement that comprises one or more platform structures (1a'') projecting from the bottom surface of the surface structure beyond a basic wall thickness (s) of the surface structure, **characterized** in that: one or more recesses (1a') are defined between adjacent platform structures and the frame part (x1) of the joint piece (x) has an open center, and at least a portion of the frame part (x1) fits within the recesses (1a'), whereby the height of the recesses (1a') corresponds essentially to the thickness (h) of the frame part (x1).

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as shown in the attached Appendix IV. A marked-up version showing the amendments made is found in Appendix III.

IN THE DRAWINGS

Please amend FIG. 2b and FIG. 2c as shown on the attached marked sheets in Appendix V.

Applicant deletes reference numeral 1a to improve clarity. The text of the specification has been amended consistent with this deletion.

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

A temporary ground covering is formed with a plurality of removable surface structures. Each surface structure is removably attachable to an adjacent surface structure essentially by the corners of such surface structures with a joint arrangement. The joint arrangement has a joint piece (x) forming a frame defining an open center and having a locking assembly (y) associated therewith that has projections (y1) that engage recesses (y2) in the surface structures by quick-locking principle. The joint piece (x) nests within one or more recesses (1a') between support